



Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee

E. Jay Carlson Community Development Building, 18400 Murdock Circle,
BCS Large Conference Room, Port Charlotte, FL 33948

<u>Board Members:</u>	<u>District:</u>
Coty Keller, Chair	District 4
Don McCormick, Vice-Chair	District 2
Thomas Brock.....	District 3
Patrick Jurek.....	District 1
Wendy Lang.....	District 5
Jeff Anlauf.....	Member-at-Large
Ed Hill.....	Member-at-Large

MINUTES

September 3, 2020 at 9:00 A.M.

1. Call to Order:

Don McCormick called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Don McCormick asked those in attendance to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call / Determination of a Quorum

Upon Don McCormick calling the roll it was determined a quorum was not present.

Mr. Keller, Mr. Brock, Mr. Anlauf and Mr. Jurek were absent

4. Approval of Minutes

- Approve the Minutes from July 2, 2020 and August 6, 2020

There was no approval on the Minutes because there was no quorum.

5. Changes to the Agenda

Dogs on the beach was removed from the agenda, due to it being discussed last meeting.

1. Citizen Input on Agenda Items

Sophie Rhodes, a resident on Manasota Key, spoke on dogs on the beach. She informed the members there are 67 types of bacteria on the West Coast beaches and that the water used to be safe. She went to the hospital because of a cut, and the doctors warned her to stay away from the water for at least a month. She explains that she has witnessed countless of dogs that go to the bathroom on the beach and no one picks up after them, meanwhile there are children playing on the beach. She is concerned for the increasing number of dogs on the beach over the years and is against having them on the beach. She is asking for help against this fight about having dogs on the beach.

Jamie Scudera informs that per the recent legal determination they have decided that public beach has defined into ordinance is beaches owned and operated by Charlotte County, which is Englewood beach and Port Charlotte beach. They have been told they have no jurisdiction on the state beaches, for which they are not state employees, nor does this state have rules or regulations concerning dogs on the beach.

Don McCormick asked what is the status on Englewood and the Port Charlotte Beach Complex?

Jamie Scudera We don't allow dogs. Englewood beach park, not all Englewood beach, just the county owned park. Dogs are not allowed, we have always stopped people with dogs in these areas.

There was some discussion about people walking down the water line with their dogs and how we have no control, that it would more so involve the state. They spoke about the ECL, invisible line in the sand, explaining up to the ECL is private property. That if someone is on your property it is well in your rights to tell them to please get off your property. Further discussion on who can enforce? The answer is only the state can.

Don McCormick stated we can play the role by doing two things:

1. We can try and ascertain if in fact it is dog feces and urine that is contributing to the water quality problems.
2. We can ask our County Commissioners, through a letter, to request the state legislative to deal with the dog problem on state owned land.

Don McCormick also mentions we should instruct our chairman to write a letter to the commissioners saying this has come up and it should be looked at.

There was some discussion about signage and where they are located on the beaches. They are placed in every single public access. There was also talk about the county easements, how signs can not be posted in the county easement, only on private property. The county can only enforce when they see the activity during the violation.

7. New Business
None offered

8. Old Business:
- Michael Poff, Coastal Engineering Consultants, Inc.
 - Manasota Key Beach Renourishment Project,
 - South Beach Fill Renourishment
 - Stump Pass navigation channel project

Matt Logan, Public Works, spoke for Michael Poff, on the Manasota Key Beach, South Beach and Stump pass. Water coastal has been performing the annual monitoring surveys, which have been completed. The post construction reporting is underway and awaiting is the areal photography to rectify the photographs for preparation for the exhibits and presentation. He informed the group that he knows in the near future Coastal Engineering wants to come and give us a presentation on this project, both here and at the commissioners meeting. Compliments went out to the project going so well, that he and the project managers for Sarasota County were nominated for an award, at the Florida Shores and Beach Preservation Conference, for which they are very honored to be the recipients of. The shore birds monitoring is complete. The sea turtle monitoring is on-going.

Matt Logan, Public Works, regarding stump pass, he explained the current task that Coastal Engineering is working on is the sea grass monitoring. The 3-year assessment of the turn undergoing. A lot of questions have been asked over the years, are they performing? Coastal Engineering has repeatedly set meetings to get a certain amount of baseline data before we can say furthermore. The main contributor towards that was Hurricane Irma, which she came right after the project was finished. We really needed to get as much data as possible to see the recovery of the beach, the natural recovery of the drift and the evaluation of the stump pass channel. We know that it has continued to migrate south, but it has held a 5-grade depth. Last year the evaluation survey said 4.9, this year were back to having 5-foot water. What we are working on is figuring out the timing of the next dredge. We know the channels migrating but if it's migrating and we can keep it marked then we may be able to post pone doing another dredge of that until it's fixed. We are planning to do a dredging of that at the end of the fiscal year of 2021-2022. However, if we can postpone another fiscal year, there has been concerns about the ski alley and that's one of the things that he has asked Coastal to investigate. What can we do with a bit of a spot dredge there to improve navigation, because it does get very skinny coming out of ski alley and entering into stump pass proper. So, these are things were looking at to see if we can put it off, then we can probably swing it that we can put that ski alley component into the project. If we have to move forward with a project, it might be a little too quick to go in and modify that permit and include in in this next dredge. But then we could be working on that simultaneously. Coastal did go out and do their survey. We have the condition survey and we have the relocation, but they are still working on how to put this all together. The county has been given that information, no confirmation has been received as to if or when they can get the contractor out there. There have been some delays with COVID, with getting these markers and channels re-located.

- Mitigation reef

Matt Logan, Public Works, said Cayo mobilized to the area at the beginning of August. They started to plane the first of the rock on August 6th. There yard is up in Tampa and due to the weight of the load and the distance, it has been a very slow process.

Ed Hill, asked how many loads have they had to make?

Matt Logan, so far, they have had two full barge loads to make the trip down, and they placed about 10 ½ % of the area. They have the equivalent of .4142 acers, based on their records and Coastal Engineering spot checks. They did have some divers go out to spot check and found some areas that were questionable, but they have an incredible system in place. They are scheduled out to work through February 2021.

- Chadwick Cove Channel– Matt Logan, Public Works

Matt Logan, Public Works, Chadwick Cove is one of those areas where the county doesn't have a funding source for maintenance for that. Until we are able to develop a process to do the work, however, we don't have the mechanism to fund us to doing any of that work. Until we get something established, he doesn't know if there is much more input as the County can provide, until something is initiated out there.

Don McCormick, asked if there has been no existing county funding source, wonder how can we could help simulate something in the county to figure out what to do about that?

Matt Logan, answered he feels it might not be his place but in his opinion working with the MSBU folks, there are other area's throughout the County that have been concerned with getting some type of work program established, so I do know that our MSBU representatives, community liaisons are working with our legal staff to

come up with standard operating procedures for establishing these funding mechanisms. They have been delayed because of COVID, they were anticipating having something established earlier this year, but they are working through those issues. As they work through that we can obviously share any information, because it has to be through the community. We need to put something out and have it put together so that we can give that to the community and say if you want work done this the SOP.

- Sunrise Channel

Matt Logan, states that he has been moved out of the MSBU world and is focusing on the beach and environmental projects for his department. The Sunrise Channel however he has been working the gentleman who took his place. He has that spot dredge scheduled, they have coordinated with parks to be able to take the sand and move it to the south end of the park. In hopes that the sand will be located further away to slow down the drift of it and to the beaches as well, while it's restoring some of the park. They are hoping to get that done the month, before October, but it may end up overlapping into October.

- **Parks and Natural Resources – Jamie Scudera**
 - **Derelict Vessel Update Report**
 - **Shore Birds and Sea Turtles**

Jamie Scudera, Natural Resources, they are making some good progress, we got 4 that are ready, waiting on scheduling the contractor to get out there. 2 are currently still at risk. 3 are cited by law enforcement, which means they have made essentially contact with the owners, and now they are going through that process. 2 are open cases, which means that law enforcement are still trying to contact the owner. 1 showing as a code compliance case.

Jamie Scudera, gave an update on the sea turtles as of last month, we've had a total of 1,447 Logger Head nest. 64 Greenhead Turtles and 2 Kemps Ridley's. We've had a really good season, not just within the beach but hurricanes have been kind. Which was a huge factor last year, we had a bunch of Greenhead turtles come in, and the nesting was phenomenal and then a hurricane came in and washed them all out. She is thrilled that the turtles are taking to this new beach so well. They typically don't take as fast because the Calcium Carbonate isn't where it needs to be, but so far they are loving it. The staff has been working on lighting violations, the amount of violations have been astronomical, primarily because there were areas that didn't have any beach and now, they do. Good news is, that people have been very compliant.

Jamie Scudera, also gave an update on the shore birds, it's kind of the end of the season, so no new nests. We did have up to 72 adult Least Turns, up to 12 Least Turns that documented as fledged. For the Black Skimmer, we had up to 82 adults and up to 2 fledged. Wilsons Plover's we had up to 17 adults and up to 2 fledge. American Oystercatcher there was 1 adult and 1 fledged. Over on Bird Island, we had Magnificent Frigatebird's up to 63 adults, 23 fledged and 2 chicks.

Matt Logan, asked about the turtles, where those successful nest or documented nest?

Jamie Scudera, answered those were documented nest total. Little Gasparilla Island didn't have a monitor this year. It took a couple of months to find someone to be approved by FWC, you will see an increase in nest within the last month or so. This isn't necessarily ratio of success it's just a total of mother birds that have been on the beach.

Don McCormick, noted for the record that Claire Jubb forwarded a written report on Water Quality. He just wanted to note that and didn't see anything that needed to be pointed out due to any concern.

9. Correspondence and Communications

None

10. Public Comments

Sophie Rhodes, pointed out that the Mockingbird Lane canal drainage is full of sand that hasn't been dredged for awhile now. She hasn't seen anyone clean out the canal in a long time.

Matt Logan, said he will inquire and bring up her concerns on the matter to the storm water department.

11. Comments by Administrative Staff or Consultants

Claire Jubb's written input is submitted here for the record:

Water Quality – Our team has split into various sub committees to focus on education, communication and outreach and science and data with each team working to develop a strategy to move the goal forward. A job description has been finalized for a proposed new position and this position is included in the budget for the next fiscal year commencing October 1 2020. If the Board of County Commissioners approves this position within the budget, we will begin the recruitment process to fill the position of Water Quality Manager. This key position will be responsible for the development, implementation and management of the One Charlotte One Water program which will further the work of the task force and provide oversight and guidance to all water quality related projects across the organization along with working with external partners and stakeholders to ensure a regional approach. The position will sit in Administration and work directly for the Assistant County Administrator.

Resiliency Compact – In July, the Board of County Commissioners became the first southwest Florida jurisdiction to ratify the memorandum of understanding forming the compact. Since then the City of Sanibel has also ratified the MOU and other jurisdictions have this planned for upcoming meetings. Working with Dr. Mike Savarese from FGCU Water School, representatives of the compact are seeking funding opportunities to fund the operations of the compact and are working on defining next steps which will include a regional climate action plan.

12. Member Comments

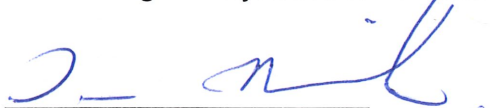
None.

14. Next Meeting

- The next Regular Meeting of the Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee will be **Thursday, October 1, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.** in the Murdock Administration Center, 18500 Murdock Circle, Room B-106 Port Charlotte unless otherwise announced.

15. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.


Coty Keller, Chair
